

ABSOLUTE

SUPERMAN



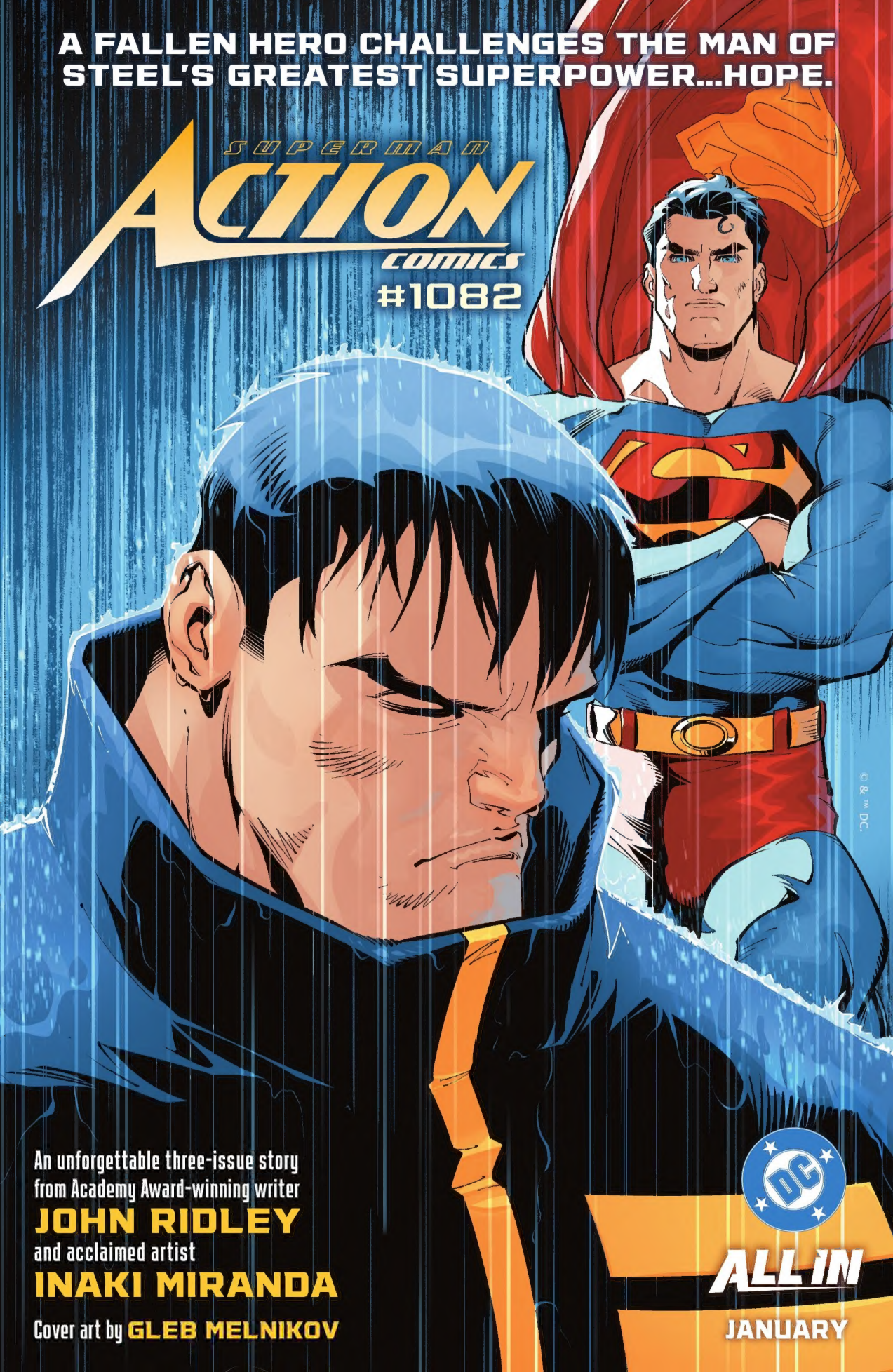
13+
TEEN 3



AARON
SANDOVAL
ARREOLA

**A FALLEN HERO CHALLENGES THE MAN OF
STEEL'S GREATEST SUPERPOWER...HOPE.**

SUPERMAN
ACTION
COMICS
#1082



An unforgettable three-issue story
from Academy Award-winning writer

JOHN RIDLEY

and acclaimed artist

INAKI MIRANDA

Cover art by **GLEB MELNIKOV**



ALL IN

JANUARY

KRYPTON. SIX YEARS AGO.

AS A CHILD ON KRYPTON, I WAS DEEMED TOO SLOW, TOO "COORDINATION-CHALLENGED" TO QUALIFY FOR THE LAW GUILD TRAINING ACADEMY.

OUTTA THE WAY, RUNT.

SCHOOL WAS ALWAYS...A CHALLENGE FOR ME, SO MY GRADES WERE NEVER GOING TO BE GOOD ENOUGH TO GET ME INTO THE SCIENCE ACADEMY.



NOT THAT I WANTED THOSE THINGS FOR MYSELF ANYWAY.

I WAS HAPPY IN THE LABOR GUILD.

HAPPY IN THE REDLANDS.

THE ONLY TWO FRIENDS I HAD IN THE WORLD WERE THERE.

AND SINCE I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO WALK, WE'D SPENT OUR DAYS EXPLORING THE PURPLE PRAIRIES AND ROLLING PINK HILLS OF THE KRYPTONIAN COUNTRYSIDE.

THAT WAS WHERE I BELONGED. QUIET, STILL, AS FAR FROM ANY CITY AS YOU COULD GET...



THAT WAS THE ONLY HOME I EVER WANTED.



MOM, DID YOU BRING THE TELENOCs? I BET WE CAN SEE ALL THE WAY TO VEGA FROM OUT HERE.

AFTER WE EAT, KAL.



KAL...

WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING, SON.



ABOUT WHERE WE'RE GOING FISHING TOMORROW? BECAUSE I HEAR THEY HAVEN'T REALLY BEEN BITING MUCH LATELY AT COGO LAKE. SO MAYBE--

WE HAD A MESSAGE FROM YOUR TEACHER.



OH.



SHE SAID YOU'VE BEEN REFUSING TO UTILIZE THE SCIENCE LEAGUE'S **LUMINARIUM** FOR YOUR REPORTS, THAT INSTEAD YOU'RE... WRITING THEM **YOURSELF**.

KAL, YOU UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN YOU DO THAT, YOU'RE CHALLENGING **THREE THOUSAND YEARS** OF KRYPTONIAN TRADITION.



I KNOW. I CAN'T HELP IT.
MY WORDS MAKE ME HAPPY.
THEIRS ARE JUST... WORDS.



WELL, IT'S AFFECTING YOUR GRADES AND GETTING YOU INTO TROUBLE AT SCHOOL, AND YOUR MOTHER AND I, WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THIS A LOT.

AND WHEN IT COMES RIGHT DOWN TO IT, WE REALLY HAVE JUST ONE THING TO SAY TO YOU, KAL.



KEEP IT UP.

WHAT? REALLY?



I DON'T CARE WHAT YOUR GRADES SAY. YOU'RE THE SHARPEST, MOST **CARING** KID IN THE WHOLE WORLD. WE TRUST YOU TO FIND YOUR **OWN** PATH.

WE CAN'T TELL YOU IT'LL BE AN EASY ROAD, GOING AGAINST THE WAYS OF THE SCIENCE LEAGUE. YOU KNOW IT WON'T.



BUT YOU HAVE TO CHASE YOUR **PASSION** IN LIFE, KAL-EL. **WHEREVER** IT LEADS YOU.

DO THAT WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AT ALL COSTS, AND I PROMISE YOU...YOU'LL BE **UNSTOPPABLE**.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANNA DO.

BUT WHATEVER IT IS...I ALREADY KNOW WHERE IT'LL LEAD ME.



RIGHT
HERE.



DAD?
DID I SAY
SOMETHING
WRONG?

NO, KAL,
NOT AT ALL.
DAD'S JUST...GOT
SOME **WORK**
TO DO.



LET'S GET THE
TENT SET UP,
OKAY?

WE'D BEEN CAMPING
IN THE RAO MOUNTAINS
MANY TIMES. BUT
SOMETHING WAS
DIFFERENT ABOUT
THIS TRIP.



MY FATHER SPENT A LOT OF
TIME TAKING SAMPLES FROM
DEEP WITHIN THE MOUNTAINS.

AND AT NIGHT, I COULD'VE SWORN...
I HEARD MY PARENTS **SOBBING**.

EVER SINCE HIS ACCIDENT AT THE MINE, MY FATHER HAD SEEMED DISTANT. **DISTRACTED.**

IN THE DAYS AFTER OUR TRIP TO THE RAOS, MY PARENTS BECAME CONSUMED WITH THEIR WORK. MORE SO THAN EVER BEFORE.



MOM WAS ALWAYS IN HER GARAGE. **BUILDING SOMETHING.**



AND WHEN DAD WASN'T AT THE MINE...HE SEEMED TO BE BRINGING HIS WORK **HOME** WITH HIM.

WE'RE GONNA NEED MORE SUNSTONE. JUST TO BE SURE.



LARA... WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.



THE PROOF I'VE GATHERED...IT'S IRREFUTABLE. AND WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN... IT COULD BE MONTHS FROM NOW. OR IT COULD BE **DAYS.**

WE CAN'T WAIT. I HAVE TO TAKE MY FINDINGS TO THE SCIENCE LEAGUE. ALONG WITH YOUR DESIGN.

I KNOW, JOR. I KNOW YOU HAVE TO TRY. AND I LOVE YOU FOR IT. BUT WHEN THE KLERICS LAUGH YOU OUT OF THE BUILDING...OR CONDEMN YOU AS A **HERETIC...**



...AND THEN COME HERE TO TAKE EVERYTHING WE'VE BUILT...I NEED TO KNOW THAT WE'LL BE DONE TRYING TO **REASON** WITH THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T RESPECT OUR RIGHT TO HAVE A VOICE.

LARA, YOU--

RAAF!



RAAF!
RAAF!

KRYPTO?
WHAT IS IT,
BOY?

GROWING UP UNDER THE
BRUTAL RED SUN OF KRYPTON,
THERE WAS ALWAYS DANGER.

TORNADOES FULL
OF DIAMONDS. RAIN
THAT BURNED.

SINKHOLES THAT COULD
SWALLOW ENTIRE TOWNS AND
SPIT OUT THE CHEWED-UP
REMAINS A CONTINENT AWAY.

AH, WHAT
HAPPENED TO
THAT LITTLE GUY?
KRYPTO, YOU
DIDN'T...

BUT *THIS*...
WAS SOMETHING
DIFFERENT.

OH.
OH
NO.

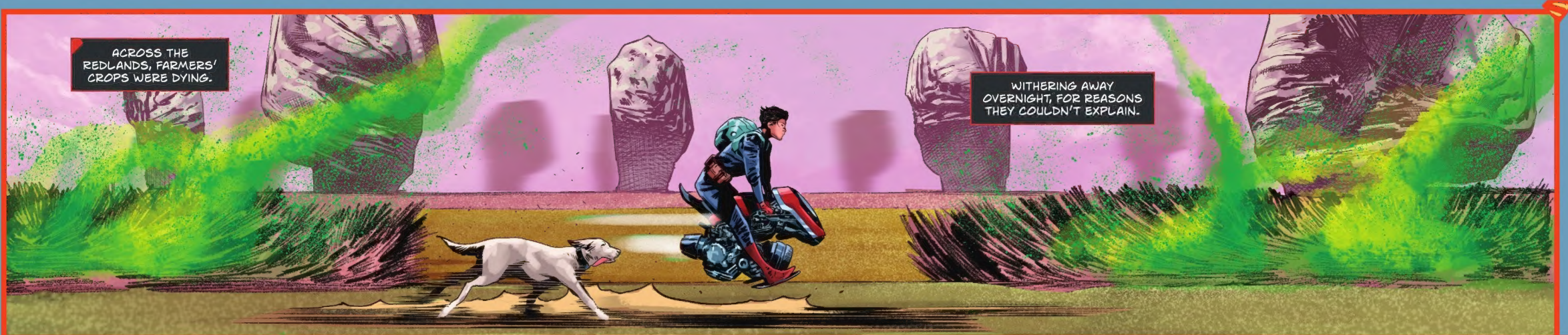
SOMETHING
KRYPTON HAD NEVER
SEEN BEFORE.

I WAS A PAINFULLY QUIET KID.
AVOIDED EYE CONTACT AT ALL
COSTS, WITH ANYONE WHO
WASN'T MY DOG OR MY PARENT.

BUT IN THAT
MOMENT...STANDING
ON THE CUSP OF A STORY
THAT WOULD CHANGE
EVERYTHING FOREVER...
SOMETHING INSIDE ME...

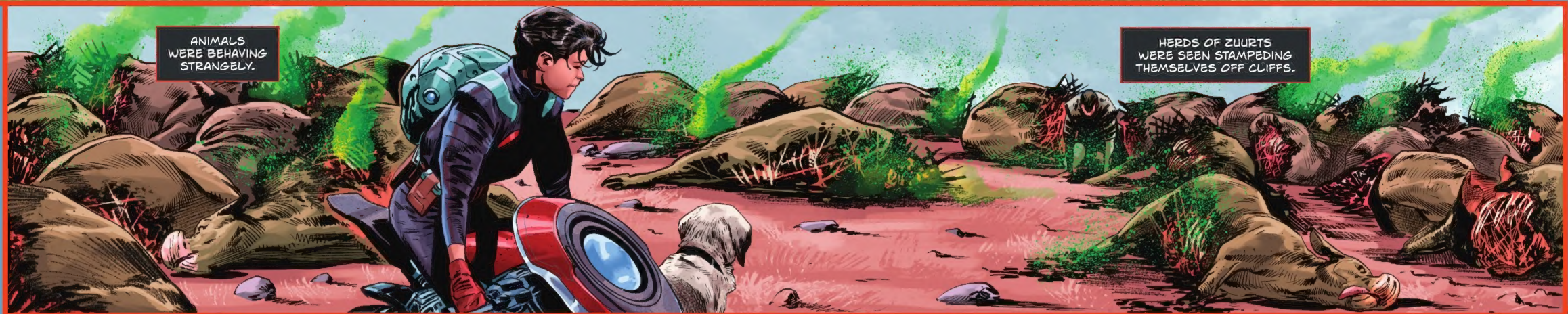
...UNLOCKED.

KRYPTO...
...WHERE'D
I LEAVE MY
BIKE?



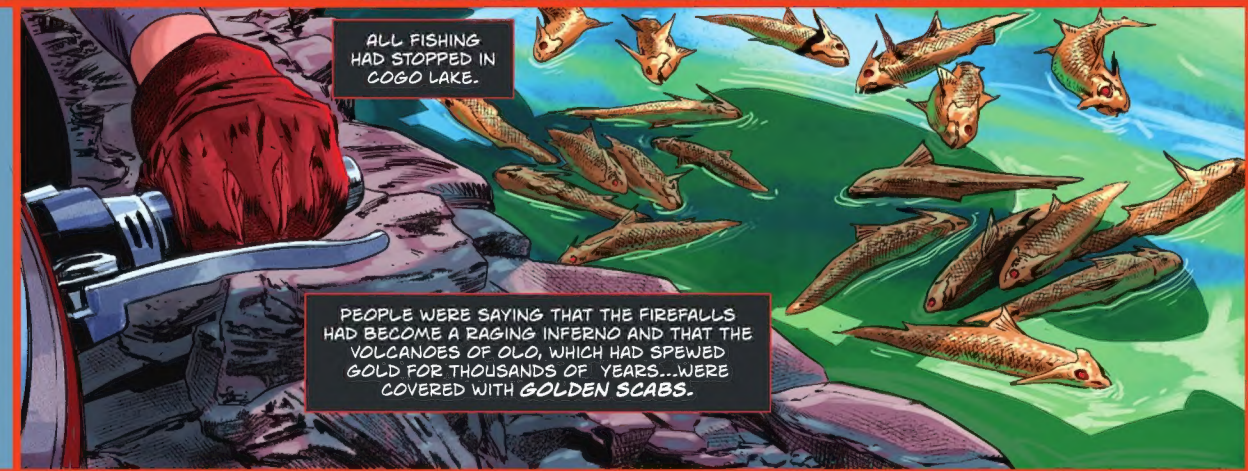
ACROSS THE REDLANDS, FARMERS' CROPS WERE DYING.

WITHERING AWAY OVERNIGHT, FOR REASONS THEY COULDN'T EXPLAIN.



ANIMALS WERE BEHAVING STRANGELY.

HERDS OF ZUURTS WERE SEEN STAMPEDING THEMSELVES OFF CLIFFS.



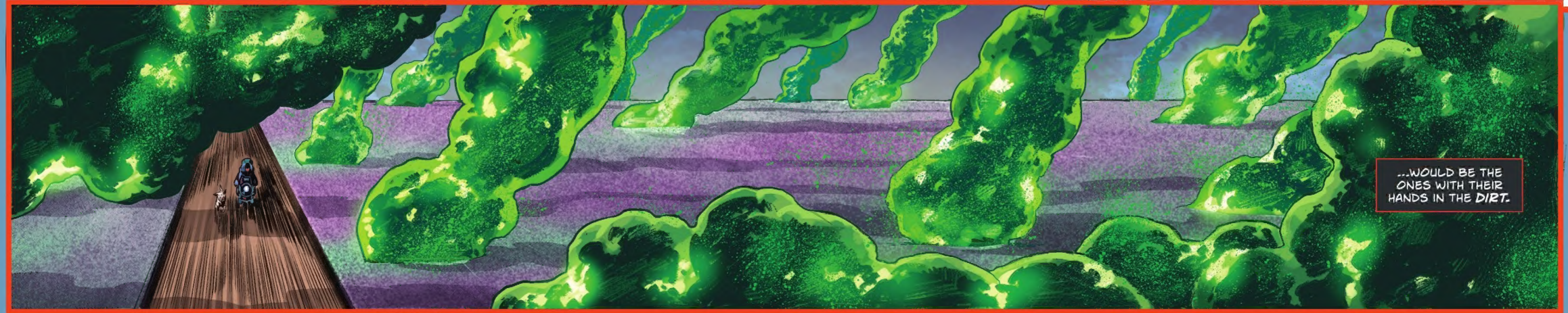
ALL FISHING HAD STOPPED IN COGO LAKE.

PEOPLE WERE SAYING THAT THE FIREFALLS HAD BECOME A RAGING INFERNO AND THAT THE VOLCANOES OF OLO, WHICH HAD SPEWED GOLD FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS...WERE COVERED WITH **GOLDEN SCABS**.

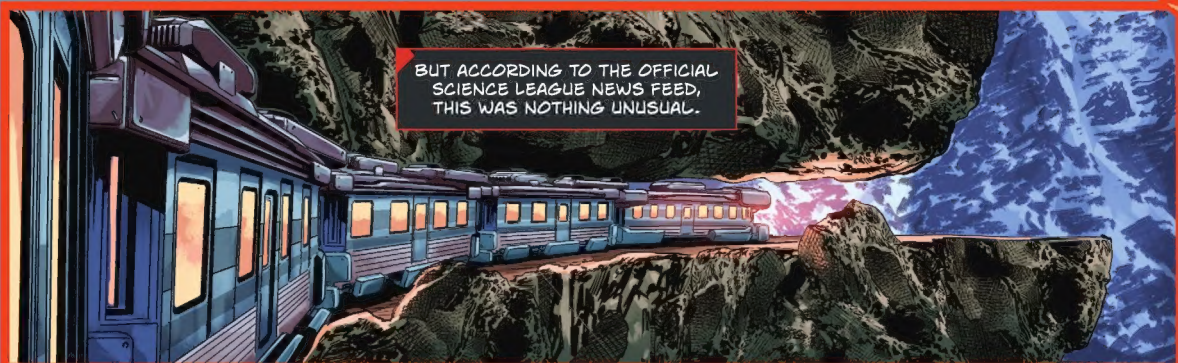


PEARL DIVERS ALONG THE DANDAHU COAST WERE SAID TO BE FLOATING TO THE SURFACE, **BOILED ALIVE**.

IF SOMETHING WAS SICK INSIDE THE PLANET, IT WOULD MAKE SENSE...THAT THE FIRST PEOPLE TO FEEL THE PAIN...



...WOULD BE THE ONES WITH THEIR HANDS IN THE **DIRT**.



BUT ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL
SCIENCE LEAGUE NEWS FEED,
THIS WAS NOTHING UNUSUAL.



WHOA.
LOOK AT
THAT.

NATURAL GAS
LEAKS, THEY SAID.
AN ISOLATED
PROBLEM.



NO CAUSE
FOR CONCERN.

A WEEK AFTER I WENT
CAMPING IN THE MOUNTAINS,
MY CLASS TOOK THE TRAIN TO
KANDOR FOR A FIELD TRIP.



ALONG THE WAY, I STARTED TO PUT
IT ALL INTO WRITING. EVERYTHING
I'D SEEN ACROSS THE REDLANDS.



THE WORDS FLOWED
OUT OF ME ALMOST
AS FAST AS I COULD
TYPE THEM.

BEFORE I COULD THINK
TO STOP MYSELF...I'D
SUBMITTED MY STORY TO THE
SCHOOL'S NEWS BOARD.

BY THE TIME WE REACHED KANDOR, THE STORY HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BOARD...

...ALL NOTES DELETED REMOTELY FROM MY TABLET... AND AN APPOINTMENT SET FOR MY PARENTS TO SEE THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR.

WE'D NEVER MAKE IT TO THAT MEETING.

WELCOME TO THE HALLS OF HIGH WISDOM, CHILDREN.



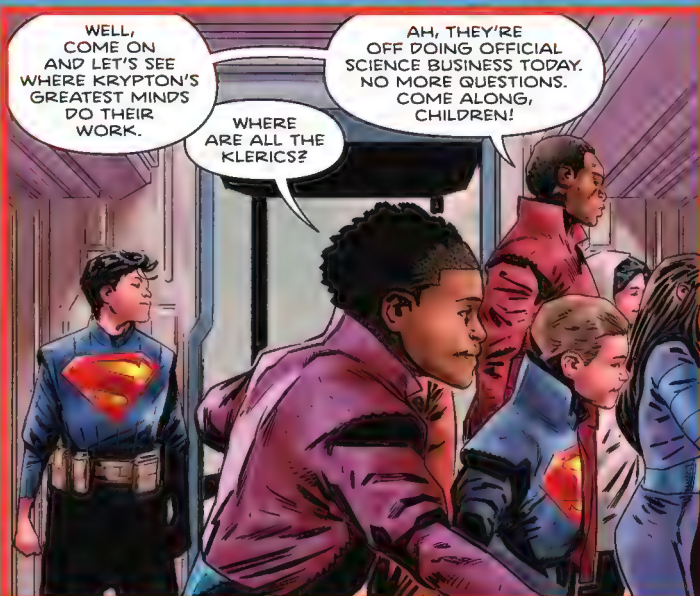
WHERE I IMAGINE MANY OF YOU HOPE TO BE WORKING ONE DAY. AM I RIGHT?

WHO HERE WANTS TO APPLY TO THE SCIENCE LEAGUE WHEN YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH?

WELL, COME ON AND LET'S SEE WHERE KRYPTON'S GREATEST MINDS DO THEIR WORK.

AH, THEY'RE OFF DOING OFFICIAL SCIENCE BUSINESS TODAY. NO MORE QUESTIONS. COME ALONG, CHILDREN!

WHERE ARE ALL THE KLERICS?



WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO WORK THIS FAR FROM THE GROUND?

NO, I HAVE TO SEE THEM! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!





...NOTHING IN MY
ENTIRE LIFE HAD EVER
SEEMED SO CLEAR.

RRRRRGH!

SMACK

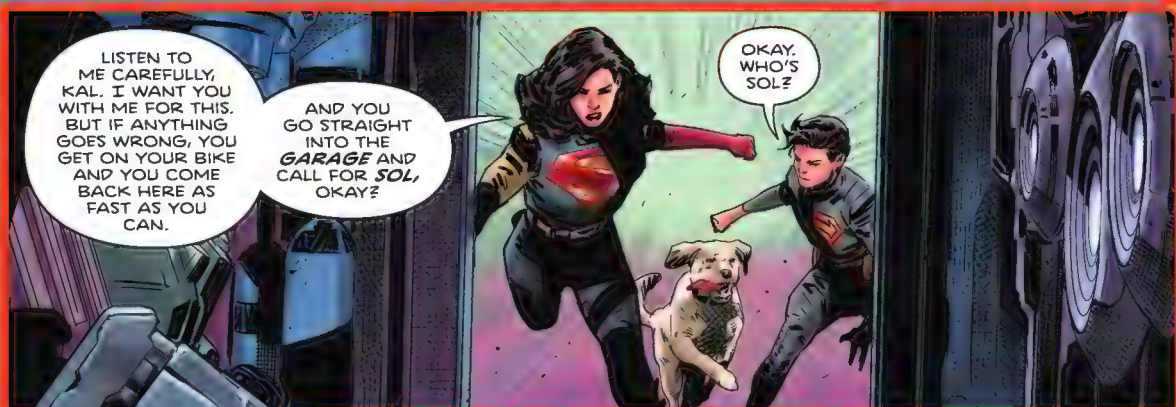
GET
OUTTA HERE,
KID.

UGH!

I WAS HELPLESS.
I WATCHED AND WEPT
AS THEY DRAGGED
MY FATHER AWAY.

AFTER THAT...THERE
WAS ONLY ONE
THING I COULD DO.

MOOOOOM!



LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, KAL. I WANT YOU WITH ME FOR THIS. BUT IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG, YOU GET ON YOUR BIKE AND YOU COME BACK HERE AS FAST AS YOU CAN.

AND YOU GO STRAIGHT INTO THE **GARAGE** AND CALL FOR **SOL**, OKAY?

OKAY. WHO'S SOL?



I'M GONNA GET YOUR DAD BACK.

HELLO, I AM SOL. HOW CAN I BE OF SERV--

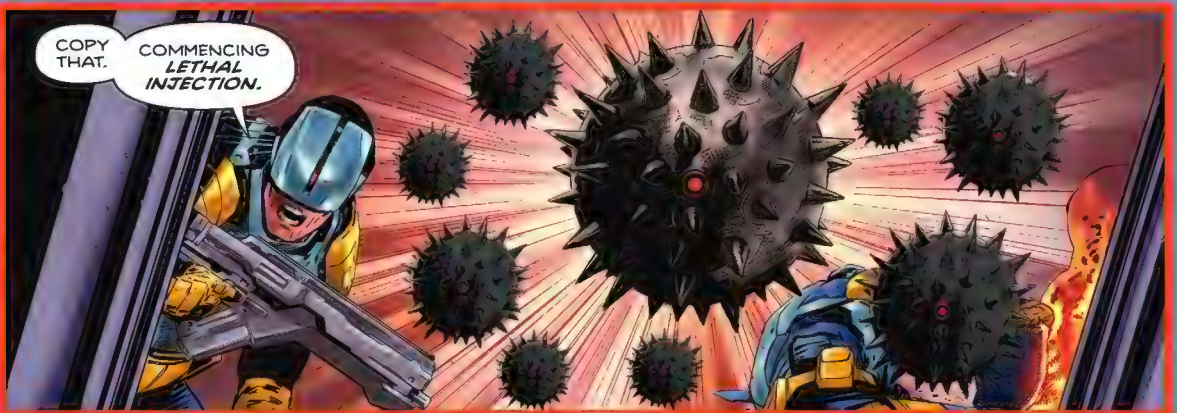
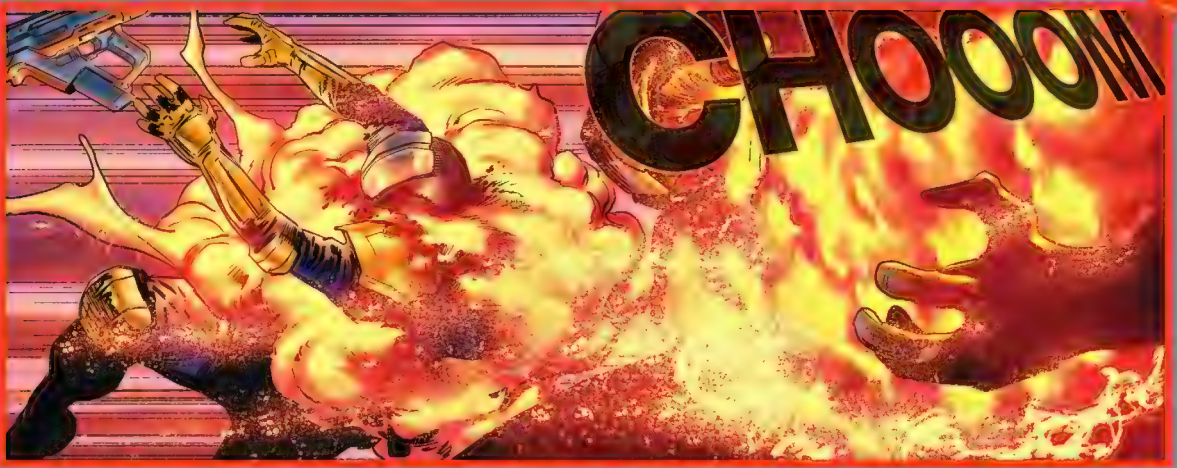
NEVER MIND THAT NOW. JUST DO WHAT I ASKED, KAL-EL.

WHAT ARE **YOU** GONNA DO, MOM?

THE CENTRAL LAW GUILD OFFICE IN KANDOR.

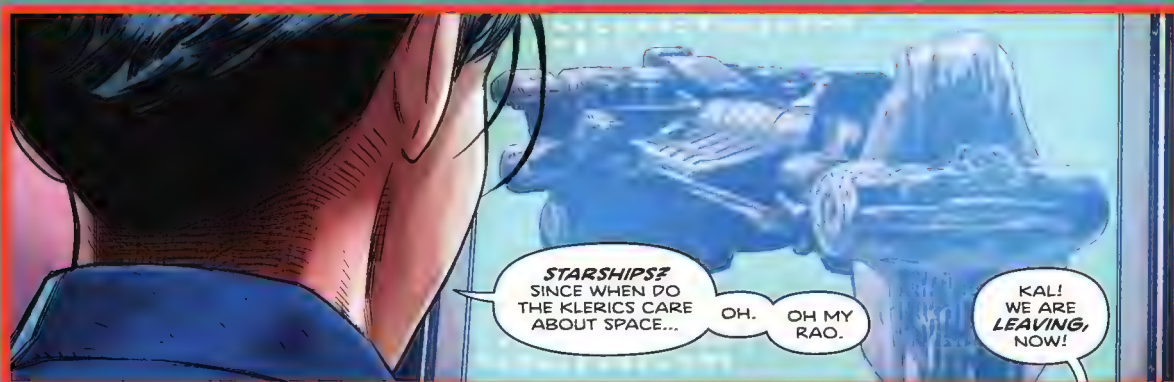
JOR-EL? LOUDMOUTH MINER FROM THE REDLANDS? YEAH, HE'S HERE. BEING HELD ON SUSPICION OF HERESY.

THIS HIS KID? THE ONE WHO THINKS HE'S A **WRITER**? WE GOT CHARGES FOR HIM TOO. WHY DON'T YOU BOTH JUST COME WITH--









THE WHOLE WAY HOME, I COULD SEE THEM, TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE RIGHT WORDS.

THE BEST WAY TO BREAK THE NEWS TO ME.



IN THE END...THEY DIDN'T NEED TO.

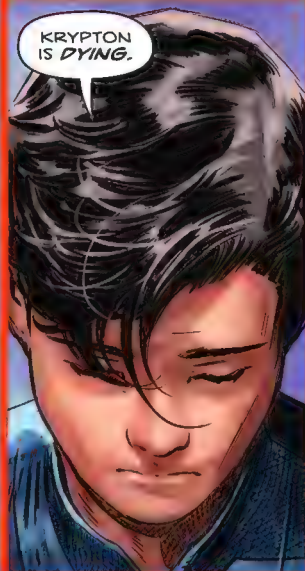
KAL... WE'VE BEEN KEEPING AN AWFUL **SECRET** FROM YOU, SON.

SOMETHING WE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO TELL YOU. BUT NOW...WELL, WE'RE OUT OF TIME.

BECAUSE... BECAUSE, SON... KRYPTON IS...



KRYPTON IS DYING.



YES, BUT...

KAL, HOW DID YOU--

AND YOU WANT TO SHOOT ME INTO SPACE, TO **SAVE** ME. ME, **ALL ALONE**, WEARING MOM'S SPACE SUIT FROM WHEN SHE WAS A KID.



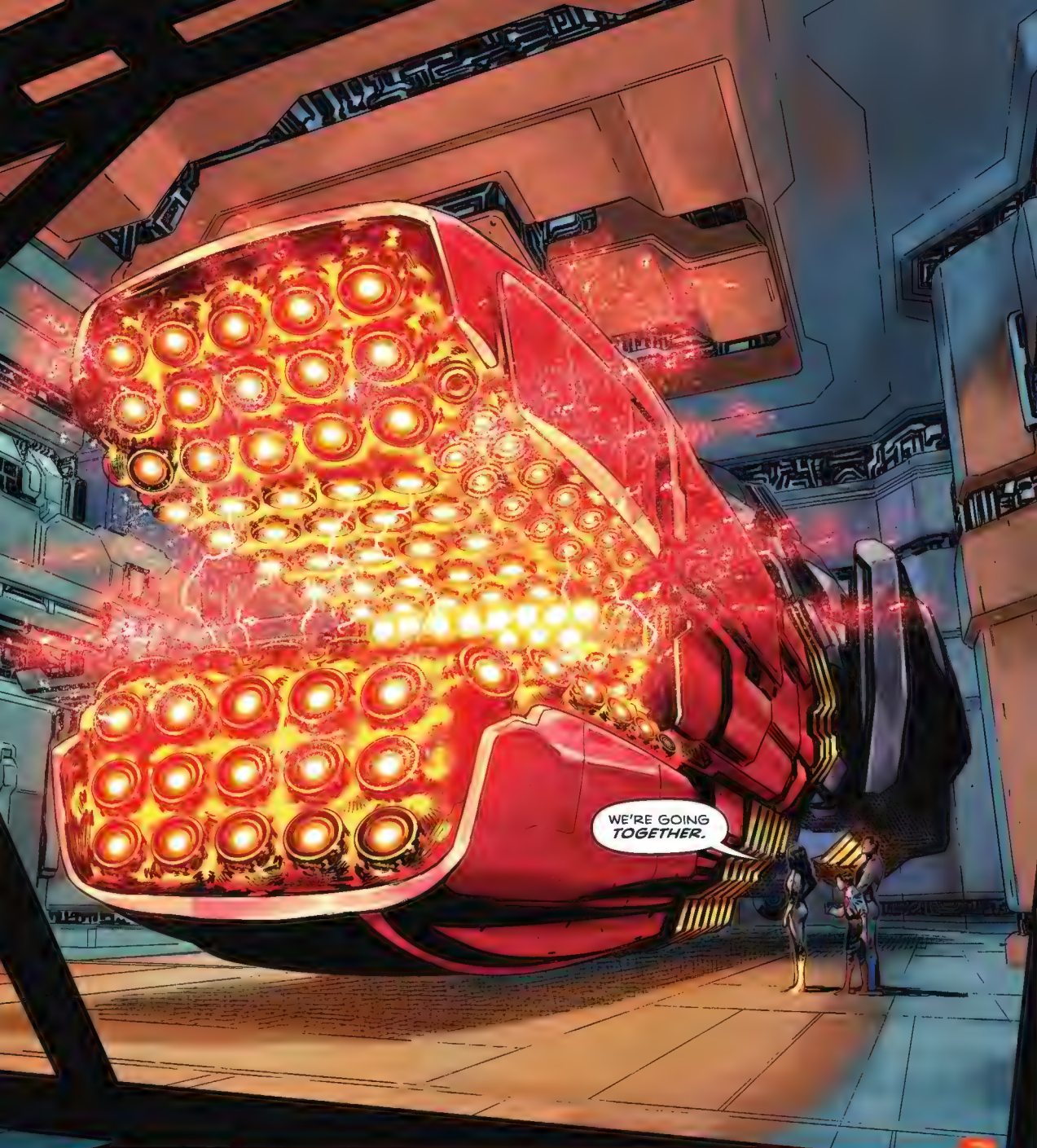
BUT I'M NOT GOING. NOT WITHOUT **YOU**.

OH, KAL... YOU AMAZING KID.

YOU'RE MOSTLY RIGHT.

WE'D NEVER SHOOT YOU INTO SPACE BY YOURSELF.





WE'RE GOING
TOGETHER.

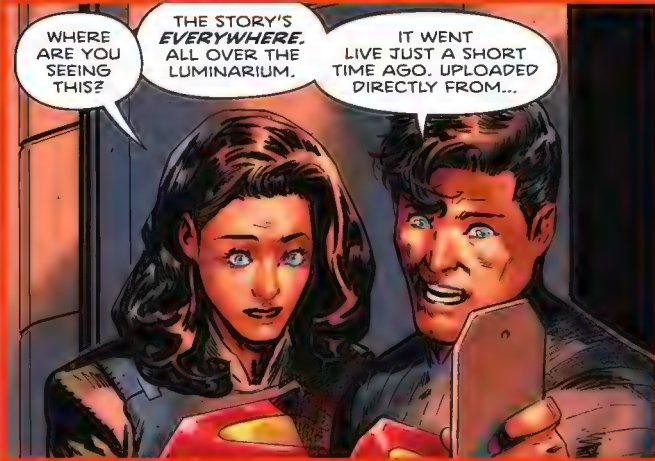
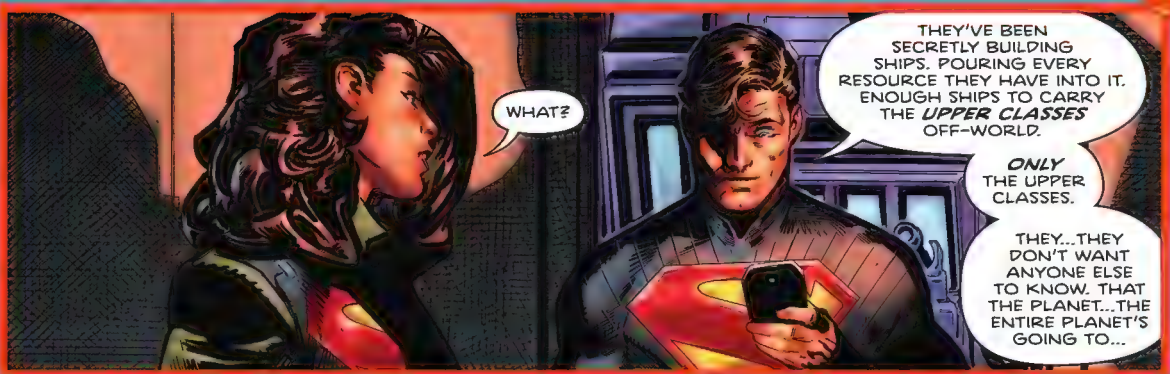
OUR COUSINS,
OUR NEIGHBORS. AS
MANY KRYPTONIANS
AS WE CAN
HOLD.

I ONLY
WISH THE
SHIP WAS BIG
ENOUGH FOR
THE WHOLE
PLANET.

BUT
THE SCIENCE
LEAGUE WOULDN'T
EVEN SEE YOU,
JORGZ IT FIGURES,
THEY DON'T WANT
TO KNOW
WHAT--

THEY
ALREADY
KNOW.





CENTRAL KANSAS. NOW.

"GOD, IT'S SO SAD."

SMALLVILLE SENIOR LIVING

SHE'S WITHERING AWAY, DAY AFTER DAY. AND SHE NEVER STOPS ASKING FOR HER SON.

HAVE WE TRIED CONTACTING THE NEXT OF KIN?

THAT'S THE THING. SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY.

AND ACCORDING TO HER RECORDS...SHE NEVER HAD ANY CHILDREN.

ANGEL.

WHERE DID...WHERE DID YOU GO?

FLY BACK TO ME.

MY SWEET ANGEL BOY.

BACK TO WHERE YOU BELONG.

**NEXT:
THE COMING
OF THE OMEGA
MEN!**

ABSOLUTE SUPERMAN

JASON AARON *WRITER*
RAFA SANDOVAL *ARTIST*
ULISES ARREOLA *COLORIST*
BECCA CAREY *LETTERER*

RAFA SANDOVAL & ULISES ARREOLA *COVER*

DECLAN SHALVEY, CHRISTIAN WARD, MIKE
PERKINS & MIKE SPICER *VARIANT COVERS*

LAST DUST OF KRYPTON

ASH PADILLA
ASSISTANT EDITOR
CHRIS CONROY
EDITOR

PART THREE

BOY FROM THE PURPLE PRAIRIE

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY
SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER. BY SPECIAL
ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY
SIEGEL FAMILY.

AQUAMAN

#1 PREVIEW

Writer **JEREMY ADAMS**

Artist **JOHN TIMMS**

Colorist **REX LOKUS**

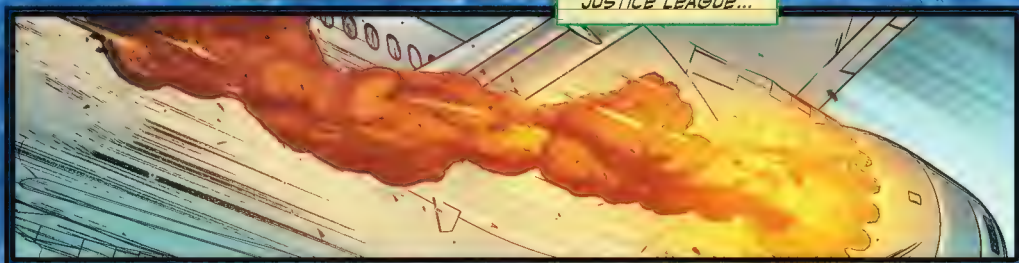
Letterer **DAVE SHARPE**



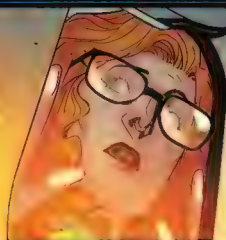
I'M
BACK.



BACK AS KING. BACK
AS PART OF THE
JUSTICE LEAGUE...



FWOOOSH!





BACK HELPING
THOSE IN NEED.
THOUGH NOW
WITH DIFFERENT
POWERS...



SOMETHING
I'LL NEED TO
ADJUST TO
AS QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE.



CAN
YOU DO
IT?



I
THINK
SO...

NERA. THE LOVE OF
MY LIFE. I'VE TAKEN
ON HER HYDROKINESIS
AND THIS IS HER WAY
OF TEACHING
ME HOW TO USE IT.



CLOSE
YOUR EYES...
CONCENTRATE
ON THE
WATER.



FEEL
IT...PULL
IT TO
YOU.

EASIER SAID
THAN DONE...



BUT I CAN FEEL IT. THE WATER,
BENDING...BEING PULLED UP
TOWARD THE PLANE...KEEPING IT--



WE'VE...
LEVELED
OFF!



IT FEELS GOOD.
IT FEELS RIGHT...

NOW YOU
JUST HAVE
TO TAKE IT
DOWN...



TO BE CONTINUED IN **AQUAMAN #1**
ON SALE IN JANUARY!

THE KING IS BACK, BABY!

AQUAMAN

© & TM DC.

WRITER
**JEREMY
ADAMS**
AND ARTIST
**JOHN
TIMMS**
DIVE INTO A
NEW ERA OF
ADVENTURE!

GO ALL IN THIS
JANUARY



**NATION****SPOTLIGHT ON****ALL IN**

AQUAMAN

INTERVIEW WITH JEREMY ADAMS

The king is back, baby! *Aquaman* stars in an all-new solo series as part of DC's All In initiative, from writer Jeremy Adams and artist John Timms. Here's word direct from Adams on why this isn't Aquaman business as usual.

Where do we find Aquaman at the start of this series?

Post Absolute Power, Atlantis is in disarray, so Arthur has reassumed his role as king in order to get the Atlantean house in order. On top of that, he's switched certain powers with Mera, giving him the ability to manipulate water, which...he doesn't really have the hang of...yet!

What kind of role do Mera and Jackson Hyde play in this series? Do we meet any new allies?

I can't really answer about Mera and Jackson... they do appear in issue one, and then after that...well...

As far as *other* allies. There will be many new and old characters that might appear as Arthur goes through the Blue.

What can you share about the threats Aquaman will face, and how will they change his status quo?

In our first issue we'll see him face off with a water kaiju, but that isn't going to be the worst of it. Water kaiju, mermaids, pirates...it's going to be wild.

How is collaborating with John Timms on charting Aquaman's new journey forward?

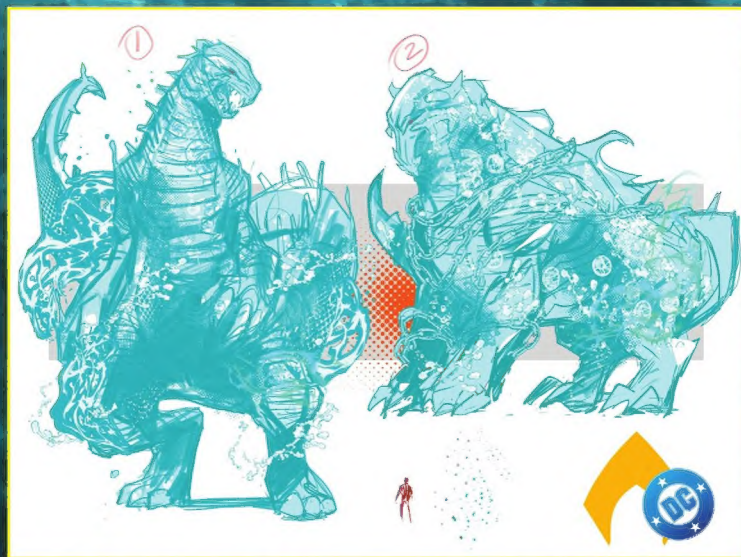
John seems to be the nicest person ever, and with his talent at the level that it is, I have become *extremely jealous* of his very existence. I want him to have fun in this book, so I'm always asking if there's something he wants to do or draw, and I hope we get a *long* run together with the King of Atlantis.

What can fans expect with Aquaman's new powers?

They can expect the unexpected. Hydrokinesis is just the start of a journey that will have long-lasting ramifications.

Which past takes on Aquaman were influential to your take on the character and his mythology?

It's strange, Aquaman has had a variety of continuities and changes, and all of them have created his incredible character that patrols the waters of Earth...but that's going to change. We're embarking on a new mythology...taking him far, far away from what he and everyone else know.



**DON'T MISS
AQUAMAN #1
ON SALE IN JANUARY!**

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